

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN
REVOLUTION AND REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND HUNGARY; CONDEMNING THE MUR-
DER OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST PAUL KLEBNIKOV IN MOS-
COW AND OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA IN THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION; AND RECOMMENDING THE INTEGRA-
TION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA INTO NATO

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND
EMERGING THREATS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H. Res. 479, H. Res. 499 and H. Res. 529

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**RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN
REVOLUTION AND REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BE-
TWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND HUNGARY; CON-
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ATIA INTO NATO**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2005

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND EMERGING THREATS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:45 a.m. in room 2200, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Elton Gallegly (Chairman of the Subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Pursuant to notice, I call up resolution H. Res. 479 for purposes of markup and move its recommendation to the Full Committee. Without objection, the resolution will be considered as read and open for amendment at any point.

[H. Res. 479 follows:]

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 479

Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2005

Mr. LANTOS (for himself and Mr. HYDE) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary.

Whereas on October 23, 1956, university students marching through the streets of Budapest were joined by workers and others until their numbers reached some 100,000 Hungarian citizens protesting against the communist government of Hungary and its domination by the Soviet Union, whereupon the Hungarian Security Police opened fire on the crowd and killed hundreds;

Whereas the Hungarian government under Prime Minister Imre Nagy released political prisoners, including major church leaders, took steps to establish a multi-party de-

mocracy, called for the withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Hungary, announced Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, and requested United Nations assistance in establishing Hungarian neutrality;

Whereas the Soviet Union launched a massive military counteroffensive against the revolt on November 4, 1956, sending tens of thousands of additional troops from the Soviet Union and launched air strikes, artillery bombardments and coordinated tank-infantry actions involving some 6,000 tanks which, remarkably, the outnumbered and under-equipped Hungarian Army and Hungarian workers resisted for several days;

Whereas Prime Minister Imre Nagy was seized by Soviet security forces despite assurances of safe passage for him to leave the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest where he sought asylum, and he was taken to Romania and was subsequently tried and executed;

Whereas an estimated one thousand two hundred Hungarians were tried and executed by the post-1956 Hungarian government;

Whereas an estimated 200,000 Hungarians fled their country in the aftermath of the Soviet suppression of the Hungarian uprising, and over 47,000 of these people eventually were able to settle in the United States, where they have contributed to the cultural diversity and the economic strength of this country;

Whereas the uprising of the Hungarian people in 1956 dramatically confirmed the widespread contempt in which the Hungarians held the Soviet Union and the underlying weakness of the communist system imposed by Soviet authorities in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the

strength of popular support for democratic principles and the right of the Hungarian people to determine their own national destiny;

Whereas on October 23, 1989, the Republic of Hungary proclaimed its independence, and in 1990 the Hungarian Parliament officially designated October 23 as a Hungarian national holiday, indicating that the legacy of the 1956 Revolution continues to inspire Hungarians to this day;

Whereas the people of Hungary are beginning a year-long celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956;

Whereas on March 12, 1999, the Government of Hungary, reflecting the will of the Hungarian people, formally acceded to the North Atlantic Treaty and became a member of NATO and on May 1, 2005, Hungary became a full member of the European Union; and

Whereas Hungary and the United States continue to expand their friendship and cooperation in all realms: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the people of Hungary as they
3 mark the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian
4 Revolution which set the stage for the ultimate col-
5 lapse of communism in 1989 throughout Central
6 and Eastern Europe, including Hungary, and two
7 years later in the Soviet Union itself;

8 (2) expresses condolences to the people of Hun-
9 gary for those who lost their lives fighting for the

1 cause of Hungarian freedom and independence in
2 1956, as well as for those individuals executed by
3 the Soviet and Hungarian communist authorities in
4 the five years following the Revolution, including
5 Prime Minister Imre Nagy;

6 (3) welcomes the changes that have taken place
7 in Hungary since 1989, believing that Hungary's in-
8 tegration into NATO and the European Union, to-
9 gether with similar developments in the neighboring
10 countries, will ensure peace, stability, and under-
11 standing among the great peoples of the Carpathian
12 Basin; and

13 (4) reaffirms the friendship and cooperative re-
14 lations between the governments of Hungary and the
15 United States and between the Hungarian and
16 American people.

○

Mr. GALLEGLY. Today, the Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats is marking up three resolutions, all of which we expect to be considered later today by the Full Committee.

The first item on the agenda is House Resolution 479, a resolution introduced by Congressman Lantos, the Ranking Member of the Committee, which recognizes the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian revolution, which began on October 23, 1956. It is estimated that 3,000 to 4,000 Hungarian freedom fighters and 700 Soviet troops were killed during the uprising and tens of thousands more were injured. The resolution also reaffirms the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary.

I am a co-sponsor and supporter of H. Res. 479. In the interest of time, I will dispense with a longer statement. Let me just say that the bravery and sacrifice of the Hungarian people was an important event in the weakening and eventual downfall of the Soviet Union. I think it is more than appropriate that the House recognizes this important historical event.

I urge passage of H. Res. 479, and now recognize my good friend and Ranking Member, Rob Wexler, for the purposes of an opening statement.

Mr. WEXLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just would simply wish to associate myself with your words. I, too, am a co-sponsor and strong supporter of the resolution and I concur with you entirely.

Mr. GALLEGLY. This is just overwhelming. What can I tell you? Thank you, Rob.

I have an amendment at the desk which, without objection, will be considered as read.

I am offering this amendment at the request of Congressman Lantos. It simply corrects an error in the legislation by changing the date of May 1, 2005, to May 1, 2004, when it refers to the date of Hungary's entry into the European Union.

[The amendment referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 479

OFFERED BY MR. GALLEGLY

In the 10th clause of the preamble, strike "2005"
and insert "2004".

Mr. GALLEGLY. The question now occurs on the amendment. All in favor say aye, all opposed, nay.

The ayes have it.

The amendment is agreed to. Do we have any other amendments?

Mr. ISSA. I call for the question on the resolution.

Mr. GALLEGLY. The question occurs on the motion to report the resolution, H. Res. 479, favorably, as amended.

All those in favor signify by saying aye, all opposed, no.

The motion is approved and the resolution is reported favorably. We have two more.

Pursuant to notice, I call up H. Res. 499 for the purposes of markup and move its recommendation to the Full Committee. Without objection, the resolution will be considered as read and open for amendment at any time.

The second item on the agenda today is the consideration of House Resolution 499, a resolution condemning the murder of an American journalist, Paul Klebnikov, on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murder of other members of the media in the Russian Federation. House resolution 499 was introduced by Congressman McCotter. I commend Mr. McCotter for his work on this legislation and strongly support its passage.

On July 9, 2004, Paul Klebnikov, the Editor-in-Chief of the Russian edition of *Forbes* magazine, was shot 10 times outside his office building in Moscow. As part of his work, Mr. Klebnikov had developed into one of the foremost experts in the intersection between organized crime, politics, law enforcement and big business in Russia. Unfortunately, the murder of Paul Klebnikov is not an isolated attack on members of the press. In the past 6 years alone, 12 journalists have been murdered in the Russian Federation.

House Resolution 499 condemns the brutal crime and urges the Russian Government to protect members of the press working and living in Russia. I urge the passage of this resolution and at this time yield to my friend, Rob Wexler, for an opening statement.

[H. Res. 499 follows:]

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 499

Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 18, 2005

Mr. MCCOTTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation.

Whereas on July 9, 2004, American journalist Paul Klebnikov was murdered by gunmen as he exited the Moscow offices of Forbes Magazine;

Whereas twelve journalists have been murdered in the Russian Federation since the Putin administration took office, and Mr. Klebnikov was the first and only United States citizen among these journalists;

Whereas the Department of State's 2004 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices claims government pressure in Russia continues to weaken freedom of expression and

the independence and freedom of the media, particularly among the major national television networks and regional media outlets;

Whereas this repression of free speech in Russia has engendered the belief that journalists can be intimidated and killed with impunity;

Whereas the Government of Russia claims Mr. Klebnikov's murder was ordered by Khozh-Akhmed Nukhayev, a fugitive Chechen warlord; and

Whereas a group of United States investigative journalists who doubt the Russian Government's claim has launched its own inquiry into the death of Mr. Klebnikov: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the murder of American journal-
3 alist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow
4 and the murders of other members of the media in
5 the Russian Federation;

6 (2) urges the Government of Russia to continue
7 its inquiries into the murder of Mr. Klebnikov;

8 (3) urges the Government of Russia to take ap-
9 propriate action to protect the independence and
10 freedom of the Russian media and all visiting mem-
11 bers of the media; and

12 (4) commends all journalists working and living
13 in Russia for their courageous dedication to trans-
14 parency and the truth.

○

Mr. WEXLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I concur again with your comments and am pleased to move the bill.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Are there any amendments?

Hearing none, then the question occurs on the motion to report the resolution, H. Res. 499, favorably. All those in favor say aye, opposed, no. The motion is approved and the resolution is reported favorably, and without objection, the title is amended.

Pursuant to notice, I call up resolution H. Res. 529 for purposes of markup and move its recommendation to the Full Committee. Without objection, the resolution will be considered as read and open for amendment at any point.

[H. Res. 529 follows:]

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 529

Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 2, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY (for himself, Mr. RADANOVICH, and Mr. VISCLOSKY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Whereas the United States recognized the Republic of Croatia on April 7, 1992, acknowledging the decision of the people of Croatia to live in an independent, democratic, and sovereign country;

Whereas since achieving their independence, the people of Croatia have built a democratic society, based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas Croatia is a functioning democracy, with stable institutions guaranteeing the rule of law, human rights, and market economy;

Whereas Croatia has previously cooperated with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by allowing NATO free access to its air space during NATO's 1999 military action against Serbia;

Whereas the United States has shown support for Croatia in many ways since its independence, including by providing Croatia with economic and military assistance that has contributed significantly to the continued success;

Whereas Croatia is a reliable partner of the United States, actively contributing to the stabilization of South Central Europe;

Whereas NATO's Membership Action Plan, which was launched in April 1999, is a program of assistance that provides both goals and a roadmap for countries aspiring to NATO membership;

Whereas Croatia was invited into the Membership Action Plan in May 2002 and has made substantial progress in attaining the necessary level of reforms required for receiving an invitation to start accession talks with NATO;

Whereas the United States, Croatia, Albania, and Macedonia are signatories to the United States-Adriatic Charter, which promotes Euro-Atlantic integration and commits the signatory nations to the values and principles of NATO and to joining the Alliance at the earliest possible time;

Whereas Croatia's cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) has improved significantly and Prime Minister Ivo Sanader has affirmed the Government of Croatia's commitment to cooperate fully and take all necessary steps to ensure that

the remaining indictee is located and transferred to the ICTY;

Whereas on October 3, 2005, the European Union decided to open accession negotiations with Croatia based on the assessment of its Council of Ministers that Croatia met the political and economic criteria for candidacy in the European Union, including that Croatia was fully cooperating with the ICTY;

Whereas Croatia has sent troops to Afghanistan as part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in support of the war against terrorism and has endorsed and is participating in the Proliferation Security Initiative with like-minded nations across the world to prevent the flow of weapons of mass destruction, missile systems, and related material; and

Whereas Croatia shares the common interests and values of the free and democratic world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the Republic of Croatia has made signifi-
4 cant progress since its independence in strength-
5 ening its democratic institutions and respect for
6 human rights and the rule of law;

7 (2) Croatia should be commended for its
8 progress in meeting the political, economic, military,
9 and other requirements of NATO's Membership Ac-
10 tion Plan, its contribution to the global war on ter-

1 rorism, and for its constructive participation in the
2 United States-Adriatic Charter;

3 (3) the Government of Croatia should be com-
4 mended for the significant improvement in its co-
5 operation with the International Criminal Tribunal
6 for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and it should con-
7 tinue to take all necessary steps to ensure that the
8 remaining indictee is located and transferred to the
9 ICTY;

10 (4) Croatia would make a significant contribu-
11 tion to NATO; and

12 (5) with complete satisfaction of NATO guide-
13 lines and criteria for membership, Croatia should be
14 invited to be a full member of the North Atlantic
15 Treaty Organization at the earliest possible date.

○

Mr. GALLEGLY. The final piece of legislation on the agenda today is the consideration of House Resolution 529, a resolution I introduced that supports the integration of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Since achieving their independence in 1992, the people of Croatia have built a democratic society based on the rule of law, respect for human rights and a free market economy. In addition, they have sent troops to Afghanistan as part of the NATO-led security force in support of the war on terrorism and have provided strong support to United States nonproliferation efforts.

House Resolution 529 commends Croatia's significant progress in strengthening its democratic institutions, its support for the global war on terrorism and its ability to make significant contributions to NATO. The resolution also calls on Croatia to continue its full cooperation in locating and transferring any Croatian war criminals to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Finally, the resolution states that once it meets NATO guidelines and criteria for membership, Croatia should be invited to join NATO.

I urge the passage of H. Res. 529. I yield to the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Wexler.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Chairman, I simply want to reiterate your words. This is your bill. It is an important statement of congressional support for Croatia's membership in NATO. It is very timely and I concur entirely with the Chairman.

I have an amendment, Mr. Chairman, when you are ready, on behalf of Mr. Lantos.

Mr. GALLEGLY. I would think the time is right.
[The amendment referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 529

OFFERED BY MR. WEXLER OF FLORIDA

Page 4, line 13, after "membership," insert the following: "including the matter described in paragraph (3),".

Mr. GALLEGLY. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for the purposes of offering the amendment.

Mr. WEXLER. The amendment is on behalf of Mr. Lantos. As I understand it, it requests that the matter described in paragraph 3 be inserted in page 4, line 13.

Mr. GALLEGLY. I would concur with the gentleman and support this amendment offered by Mr. Wexler. I believe that the language clarifies the full cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, it is a precondition of Croatia entering NATO. I thank you for offering the amendment.

Is there further discussion?

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Chairman, with your permission, may I be listed as a co-sponsor of this bill?

Mr. GALLEGLY. Without objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chairman, could I also be listed?

Mr. GALLEGLY. Without objection. The question occurs on the amendment. All those in favor say aye, opposed, no.

The amendment is agreed to.

The question occurs on the motion to report the resolution, H. Res. 529, favorably, as amended.

All those in favor say aye, opposed, no.

The motion is approved and the resolution is reported favorably.

Without objection, the resolution will be reported favorably to the Full Committee in the form of a single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendments adopted here today. Without objection, the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming amendments.

With that, I thank all of you.

Do you have a comment, Mr. McCotter?

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Chairman, I want to, number one, thank you and your staff for your help with my resolution. I would have been here sooner, but our congressional delegation is meeting with our governor as I speak, and I will be returning there. I meant no disrespect to you.

Mr. GALLEGLY. I thank you for your resolution and participation, it was such a good one and it moved right through quickly. With that, the Subcommittee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 9:59 a.m., the Subcommittee was adjourned.]

